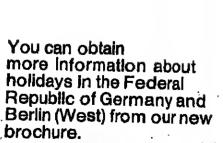
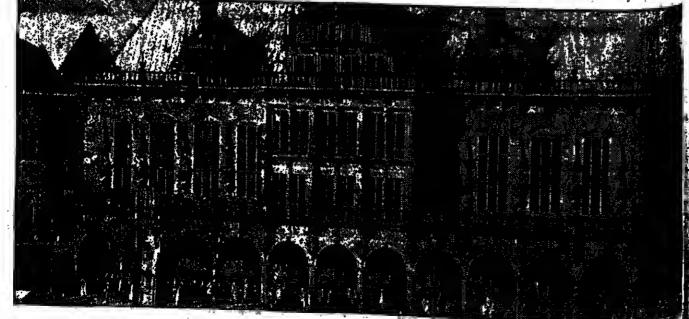
Germany has innumerable art treasures and historical monuments, from which the art lover will derive endless pleasure.





German National Tourist Board 69 Beethovenetraano, D-6000 Frankfurt a.M.



The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C

President Sadat on a working visit to Bonn



Hamburg, 10 April 1977

Bonn was a working visit without the red carpet treatment. It was almost a year to the slay since the Egyptian leader puld Bonn his first official visit.

Egypt's relations with the West have steadily Improved since President Sadat ousted his predecessor's pro-Soviet advi-

Yet Egypt's finest hour when, in the wake of the October 1973 Yom Kippur War, President Sadat was a principal intermediary in the Middle East conflict and grew increasingly important in Western eyes, is fast receding into the dim and distant past, Does the West really need President Sadat any longer?

This query is made without the slightest intention of being cynical. In foreign affairs diplomatic routine is frequently, at-loggerhands, with common

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plomats have grown accustomed to taking President Sadal seriously as an' opposite number, but the Egyptlan leader will no longer be able to give a pollcy of gradual improvements in the Middle East situation that extra nudge needed for it to gain general acceptance.

The vely idea is now past history. Sytia and Jordan are no longer interested. Neither are the Israells."

If President Sadal were to resume the slatus of a key diplomatic figure in any new round of Middle East talks it would

prestige, but this does not necessarily mean that the West should try to ensure that the Egyptian leader is chosen for

Configurations are quick to change in the Middle Enst, Only a few weeks ago Bonn Foreign Minister Ilans-Dietrich Genseher harboured hopes of a change of heart on the Palestinians' part, expressly mentioning the fact to Arab di-

The tensely-awaitd conference of the Palestinian National Council, which ended in Cairo on 20 March, dashed such hopes with a vengeauce. The PLO seems determined to fight on until final

The Egyptian government has since does not consider itself the Palestinians' wet-nurse. At present President Sadat is hardly in a position to bring much political pressure to bear on the Palestine Liberation Organisation, in which extremists have the upper hand.

So at the moment the Egyptian tender hardly scents shortlisted for the role of intermediary in further contacts with the Palestinians. But Egypt nonetheless remains a focal point of Western diplo-mats in the Middle East for two other

. For years to come the industrialised countries will rely on substantial oil inports from the Arab world, particularly

No one in Europe knows much about Saudi Arabia, but Arab politicians appreciate how, potentially unstable the kingdom is. Were Anwar Sadat, the level-headed statesman, to be replaced in Cairo by a man in Colonel Gaddafy's off the trammels of the late President the Saudi throne would be in Nasser's power apparatus, entirely with-



tour which took him to Bonn, Paris and Washington

iconardy, and so would the sum total of out outside assistance and by means of a oil supplies to the West.

So this country would do well to len the Egyptian economy generous support, and President Sadat remains an Important political partner from Bonn's point

In January Egypt's pro-Moscow Communists tried to oust him by means of a mass uprising. Cairo's experiments in multi-party democracy were to be superseded by a Marxist dietatorship along

Fortunately the coup failed and Pre-

Six years ago he singlehandedly east

For some time this turn of events proved difficult to anticipate even in Cairo itself. Musa Sabri, an Egyptian journalist who is one of the President's close associates, recently edited a volume of important source documents that

political tour de force lasting several

Yet even without going into the finer details it is appreciated in the West that President Sadat is in favour of parlia-

shed light on the way in which Presi-

dent Sadat accomplished this feat.

In recent years Western Europe has done much to nurture the tender shoots of democracy in countries such as Greece, Portugal and Spain. The fate of democracy in Egypt cannot be immaleriat to Europe cither.

The process of democratisation in Egypt may not measure up to much by European yardsticks but open criticism can now be tevelled in the Egyptian parliament at Ministers, the Premier and even the head of State, and that Is saying something.

Not for more than a quarter of a century has there been so much freedom in

President Sadat is a man who can take, and indeed relishes, a frank exchange of views. Recent meetings be tween the Bonn and Calro Foreign Minislers were marked by too many trite phrases. There was too much resounding verbiage and too little meat.

President Sadat's visit to Bonn will hava represented a welcome opportunity of conlinuing where he and Helmut Schmidt left off a year ago.

The Middle East will be back on the foreign affairs agenda this year as ever, not only in Calro, but also in Washington, Moscow and Bonn. Harald Vocke:

(Frankfurter Allgomeine Zellung für Deutschland, 31 March 1977)



US State Secretary Vance in Bonn

US Secretary of State Cyrus Vence, left, pictured during talks in Bonn with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, centre, and Foreign Minister Hans-Districh Genecher on the outcome of the latest SALT. II negotiations between the US and the Soviet Unian over strategic arms curbs. Vance was on a tour of the main West European capitals.

EUROPE

Challenge to Parliamentary system a major item at Anglo-German talks

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

It was no coincidence that the largest Leonference chamber at this year's Anglo-Federal Republic talks in Königswinter on the Rilne was reserved for a working party on The Challenge to the Parliamentary System.

Mr Callsghan's Labour government had just survived by the skin of its teeth a Conservative sponsored vote of noconfidence of Westminster, but only by coming to terms with Mr Steel's baker's dozen of Liberal MPs.

In this country the Bonn coalition of Social and Free Democrats has also taken a few knocks and owes ita survival to an Opposition that seems to be in even greater disarray.

All over Europe minorily governments now seem to be the rule rather than the exception. Everywhere organized groups are making headway in the political vacuum left behind by the parties that have traditionally commonded mass op-

For years the main Item on the Königswinter agenda was foreign affairs and security. This year it turned out to be the domestic crisis of European democ-

Lsbour MP John Melniosh put the problem in a mushell. "Everywhere," he noted, "lobbies and pressure groups are circumventing parliaments in order to bring direct influence to bear on governments.

In this country demonstrators and campaigners are easily ontflanking a Soclal Democratle government on the left of the political spectrum. They organise sil-lns on sites earmarked for nuclear power stations and even resort to the courls of law to force the authorities to bring on-site construction work to a

The state, one can but conclude, has grown less and less mindful of the hardships faced and the desires elvenshed by the man in the street.

Elections have come to be regarded os a mere ritual. The major political parties ore currently doing no more than rehearsing integration; innovation seems to have been forgolten.

Is there any hope for the parliamentary system? The conclusion reached sl the twenty-seventh annual round of Königswinter talks was a cautious sffirmative, subject to a proviso.

The proviso was that psrliaments must stop merely rubber-slamping decision reached by faceless civil servants. They must also grasp the opportunity presented by the failure of government and the dissatisfaction fell by the elec-

Parlioments will come into their own the world, especially in India. The Emagain if only they succeed in articulating plre was never much more than a patthe interests of society and thereby repart of the power forfeited to the executive since the Second World War.

Europe's energy problems constituted tha second focol point of the Königs- Island mentality ever since the Normon winter agenda, the arguments voiced in this context nowadays very much forming part and parcel of the slaple diel of debate.

Four years have passed since the oil crisis came home to roost, but the fashion potterns of existence. Königswinter talks, while including any number of jeremlads and fine-sounding appeals, failed to come up with either homo is not only my castle, it is also a analyses or propossis that might have one-family residence:— and be it only a convinced in equal measure pessimists council house.

power and apostles of growth.

At Königswinter, as in all energy debates conducted in recent years, visions of the apoealypse proved more telling than a down-to-earth, sceptical assessment of the pros and cons.

The one side argued that we foce the prospect of a truly shipendous energy shortfalt, while the other reckoned that to take the nuclest plunge would be to court disaster in the form of lotal destruction of the ecological balance.

Yet is it really true, as one British speaker claimed, that even if energy consumption declines there will be an energy shortfall of 400 gigawatts by the lurn of the century?

The alternative, he maintained, was to build twenty 1,000-megawatt nuclear power slations per annum in the meantime. Yet 20,000 megawatts - a year, mind you - is the rough equivalent of the total current output of each and every nuclear power station that is operotional in Western Europe.

In all other respects most British delegates viewed the prospect with equonimily. North Sea oil is beginning lo flow rather than trickle, and Britoin is increasingly fascinated by the idea of accommodate new would-be members

and optimists, opponents of nuclear being the oil sheikh of the Common Market.

Both sides certainly agreed that research into non-nuclear energy sources ought to be funded more generously than has hitherto been the ease.

The Bonn Ministry of Research and Technology has earmarked roughly 1,000 million deutschmarks for nuclear research this year but set aside a mere 300 million marks for research into alternalive sources of energy.

Topies popular ot past Königswinter lalks were dealt with in a distinctly low key. The first day of talks colneided with the twentieth anniversary of the Treaty of Rome. Twenty years ago Britain was still very much orientated towards splendid isolstion and the special relotionship with the United States.

Nowadsys British membership of the EEC is, of course, taken for granted, bul the Europe of the Marketeers' dreoms has receded well beyond the political horizon.

No mention as made of Königswinter of the European Monetary Union, let alone of political integration. How much economic integration, delegates wondered, will have to be forgone in order to

such as Portugal, Greece and laler Sur Jean Monnet and the men who we instrumental in selting up the Com Market envisaged membership as Inc ing relinquishing day by day a little; vereignty.

One British delegate at Konigship was reminded by this comparison di slimming cure. It was, he said, as that you shoulder a sacred trust, but steen to the ballroom scales only la findly it has made no difference whalen; your weight.

Might not direct elections to the b ropean Porlinnent give the EEC ali onee MPs included such outstants parliamentarions as Willy Brandt, fe: cols Mitterrand and Shirley Williams

A Federal Republic delegate vice the prospect with scepticism. He h grave misgivings about transforming & fomb of the Unknown Parliamental into a political graveyards of beknown names.

Direct elections, he pointed out a not disguise the fact that the Europe Parliament Is powerless in many min respects.

Why, for that matter, should goe ments share their privileges with a pranational institution when they: everywhere fighting tooth and nail un lain power? By no means every page ecolition in power is as lucky as Mill aghan in being oble to fall back on "strategie reserve" of Liberal AlPs.

East-West ties and delente have bet feotures of the Könlgswinter agendals years. They reminded one Brilish dele

Britons and Germans have much in common, but there are discernible differences

Rolf Breitenstein, tha author of this erticle, recently retired from the diplomatic service ofter a five-year tour as press officer at the Federal Republic's embassy in London. Ha is also a former Frankfurter Rundschau correspondant in London and hare summarises his views on differences batween the

Deople in Britain and this country. have much in common, yet they remain easy to distinguish. Their haircuts, their trousers, their entire lives are fashioned differently.

The Germans live in the heart of Europe on territory that has no natural frontiers. Their history has for the most part been a matter of either unbounden expansion or a painstaking restoration of order behind unnotural frontiers.

The British live on the outskirts of Europe and on islands surrounded by a frontler that could hardly be more natural

There are those who would never dream of setting foot outside Britain and would soonest keep foreigners out too; there are others who have fashioned islands of the British way of life all over

The British Isies have been on the mop for as long as anyone can remeinber, and the British have developed sn

This phenomenon is on interesting example of how, in a given historic situation, existence begins to colour awareness and awareness begins visibly to

There can be no mislaking the manifestations of this island mentality. My on to form a lifelong link with their college or their regiment. They are also either C of E or chapel, (Church of England or nonconformist), and distinctly different in their forms of worship and denominational traditons from those

They ulso join a club ("the perfect way of combining the drawbacks of social life with the boredom of solitude") which is designed to eater for the needs of a specific social eategory.

current in Europe.

Individually and among their own kind the British keep their distance from others, and both as individuals and as a nation they ore accustomed to a policy of non-intervention, of "splendid

Is British society a class society? Yes, but this definition is too rough-hewn. Distinctions are more subtle. Toke, for nstance, Oxbridge.

The universities of Oxford and Carnbridga are undenlable islands of scademic excellence against the bockground of edication as a whole. Yet not only do the two shun cach other's company, they also subdivide into a myriad of separale colleges.

Each college is concealed from the oulside world by high walls and subdivided within with the built-to-last finality of an ants' nest or a coral reef. "

Free and imaginative thought has prospered within these confines over the centuries. Newton's discovery of the lows of gravity heralded a new era: Byron's decision to keep a bear as a pet at college because dogs and cats were prohibited is an instance of more eccenttle vlewa.

Within such confines communication tisrealens to grind to a halt, to petrify in ritual or to cease altogether, in which

Children wear school uniforms and go case the entire structure is in danger t collapse.

The lives of Britons and Germans a built on different foundations that com spond to a different outlook on life z. a different concept of freedom.

For Germans freedom is a sublirconcept to which one aspires. This is true of Goetho as it is of the Gem: workingman, who is elemally on f. point of achieving salaried or civil vant stalus.

For the British freedom relots something elso between which sadia self one draws n line, not to say a b tiuction. This "something else" u # ated even though It may not be und

In Britain there are millions of wi ingmen who are firmly committed? the working class and, should proper Continued on page 3

The German Tribune

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Bonn puzzled by Warsaw's anti-German campaign

with which the Polish lender appear to number of German nationals are reputed have been prepared in achieve a modus. To have died at this eamp.

It was evidently not linked to specific Poland's neighbours have for some demands. Shonfloot resolutions and newslime viewed signs of a modicum of likepaper reports contained no pointer to ralism with undisguised mistrust. The anti-Bonn campaign may have been in-There ore, wo are given to understand, lended to counter this sentiment. no current negotiations that might in-

At the same time, however, Warsaw will have wanted to try to see wether there has been any change in Bonn's attitude towards Poland

Last June Mr Gierek was accorded : cordial reception in this country, since when relations have reverted to o routine Staff at the Polish mission in Cologne

may even have suspected that this cum-Iry is less well-disposed towards Warsaw than it has been in recent years. The strength of such evidence as they

might have put forward is, however, less indicative of trends in this country than of the sensitive nature of relations between the two countries. Warsaw was upset that a court in

Hagen, Westnitalia, was anxious to clarify the course of events in Lamsdorf transit cantp. During the post-war expulsion of Germans from Poland a large

Polsnd Is doubtless less worried by the individual instance than by the thought that the entire context of expulsion might be recalled.

The Polish government would prefer such excesses as might have occurred to be conveniently forgotten in view of Garman behaviour towards Poland and by the terms of what might be termed a pistorie and moral anmesty.

On the other hand Poland fails to see why trials of war cirminals in this country are increasingly being quashed hecause of lack of evidence or because the accused are allegedly no longer in a fit state to stand trial.

Ity no means all the evidence Poland propared to supply is boling used, It is claimed. If this country wanted to set the record straight it could no doubt start proceedings against ulleged Polish war criminals, but it is hard to see what good this would do now.

Poland also notes that the Born government has failed to fulfil its undertaking to rewrite school textbooks. At the end of Mr Gierek's visit to this country Chancellor Schmidt untertook to do his best to ensure that "the recommenda-

tions of the joint textbook commission are adopted."

As it happens, the Federal government has no mandatory powers in this context. States ruled by Social Dernneratie governments are prepared to accept the recommendations, wheras states governed by the Bonn Oppsition parties are less enthusiastic.

Christian Democrats point out that the recommendations are governed less by lilstorical truth than by considerations of political opportuneness.

Warsaw is also upset that migrants from Poland by virtue of German extraction are officially registered in this country as expellees. This entitles them to the appropriate documents and legal

Here the Poles ure surely making a political mountain out of an administrative molehill. They similarly note that in official ddocuments the city of Lodz is occasionally designated by its artificial Nazi name, Litzmannstadt.

Yet they seemingly attach less importauce to the fact that there is said to have been a map with the outlines of the old frontiers of the German Releh ut a Christian Democratic party conference.

The Poles do, however, take exception to the activities of a pressure group claiming to represent landowners in Sudeten Germany and the German Eastern

This strange organisation appears to have issued forms with the aid of which former land- and property-owners have

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 2

No. 782 - 10 April 1977

t came to a head.

have been.

this effect.

lomatie Import.

as It had come to thu, forc.

Doland has recently been swept by an

oreliestrated wave of anti-German

"Spontaneous outrage" was voiced at

sentiment which subsided as quickly as

shopfloor meetings and in a newspaper

eampaign, only to fade away as suddenly

and the curtain fell, leaving Bonn won-

dering what the purpose might possibly

volve fresh financial or political com-

Relations have grown quite extensive

and there is no need for indecent haste,

So the performance does not appear to

linve been connected in any way with

bilateral considerations of ony major dip-

The eampaign may, of course, have

been intended first and foremost for

domestle consumption. Polish Party len-

iter Edward Gierek may have had com-

pelling domestic reasons for pointing an

Poland's oconomic problems are os

intractoblo as ever, and Mr. Gierek's

position is as unclassinged as that of a

high-wire artist about to attempt the sal-

Warsaw has, moreover, been urged by

other Communist countries to do some-

thing about the civil rights movement

arensing finger at bogyman Honn.

mitments required of this country.

Warsaw called off the entire campaign

fail to materialise, are prepared to console themselves with the words of John Vilton They also serve who unly stand and wait.

There are many definitions of the differences between the British and Cierman ways of life. Germans tend to think and act on principle, whereas the British

are given to a pragmatic approach. Germans invariably want to transform thesis and antithesis into the Hegelian synthesis, whereas the British regard synthesis as little more than an inter-

Germans are intent on achieving hannony, whereas the British are orientated more lowards conflict. Yet the unbounden striving after harmony can lead to the chaos of the Götterdanimening, whereas the rule of conflict can lead to the emergence of "fair play" and a sense

Conflict situations underscore the virtues of tolerance, whereas the striving after frannony can induce the striver to condone totalitariunism.

Put in terms more specific and more to the point, in Germany minorities run the risk of being terrorised and wiped out by the majority. Think, for instance, of the fate of the Jews consigned to the

In Britain, on the uther hand, the majority runs the risk of being terrorised paralysed by infnortlies. Take, for instance, the recent strikes by a handful of workers who succeeded in preventing the printing of The Times or laying low enlire corporations.

This insight Into the price Britain has to pay for its version of freedom brings us to the root couse of the much-vaunted but seldom understood "English Sickness".

It is the same root couse that in its day enabled Britaln to pioneer the industrial revolution, establish Britain's conomic predominance and lay the foundations of the much-admired British way of life.

In 1776 Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations paved the way for the industrial era, mainly because his postulate of industry as the source of all wealth and of the division of labour as the means of exploiting this source of wealth to the full in Britain had an immediate effect.

The general principle of freedom by virtue of, let us say, differentiation was transformed, in the economic context, into specialisation leading to an increase in output by leaps and bounds.

Two hundred years later liritain had declined to the role of an ailing industrial nation, with a declining standard of living. This was mainly the result of Britain's social and economic structure proving less suited to the transformation to a later stage of the industrial revolution than those of its competitors, notably the United States, this country and Japan.

This Stage Two of the industrial revolution may be chameterised by the assembly line, by product standardisation. stondardisation of labour and consumption, not to mention that of labourers and consumers.

Karl Marx seriously underestimated the stability of a coral reef by the name of Great Britain when he forceast imminent proletarian revolution.

A few years ago there were numours of private armies and an imminent coup in Britain. These rumours proved haseless, but so may reports that with North Sea oil rolling in Britain is on the brink of an economic miraele.

North Sea oil is proving a sluggish commodity and Britsin would be only too liapny if oil revenua were to plug the halance of payments gap by 1980 or

Oil will not oligned established structures either, olthough il might induce an atmosphere that is more conducive to change - which in itself would represent a substantial gain

Three current social trends should prove of far greater insportance for the future shape of British society:

the introduction of comprehensive education as a means of breaking down class boundaries of the previous chicational system.

- The debate on industrial democracy

as a means of drawing workers and employers closer together - Britain's accession to the European Community as a means of leading the country out of its isolation on the outskirts of Europe.

All three trends run counter to established patterns and are thus most controversial. There are many retarding factors, of course.

Many teachers, not to mention parents and pupils, lament the problems encountered in connection with the introduction of comprehensive schools.

The Bullock Report on industrial democracy has so far failed to induce either management or shopfloor, in theeens, to view integration more favou-Four years snd a referendum after

Britain joined the EEC mony people still regard the Common Market as o kind of late colonial milch-eow or an inevitable nuisance rather than a stimulus to more intensive integration.

And as for the somewhat nebulous concept of devolution, it too has more to do with the traditional senreh for freedom in differentiation and detachment than with a more up-to-date view-

Yel diehard though old-estoblished fraditions may be, there are signs that their demise is in the offing. Many of The old London clobs are linving to close and the bulldozers are at work changing the face of the entire country.

Under the influence of the United States and the Continent including of courss, the Federal Republic of Germany Britoin's closs society is slowly being transformed into a society of consensus.

Already mony people no longer regard peocetime coalitions or a step in the direction of proportional representation os altiff und nonsense.

Foreign observers tenit to feel that the transition is progressing far too slowly. bearing in mind that Britain is in at the deep end economically. But patience and consideration prove their true worth when times are hard.

It would be unwise for this country to hombard Britain with bright ideas and to suggest that haste is not necessarily indecent.

It is, when all is said and done, illogical to iament the decline and fall of Oid England on the one hand while enticisng Britain on the other for insufficient appreciation of what is deemed un-to-

It would, however, do no harm to show Briloin how industrial democracy, federalism and a version of proportional representation work in this country without, of course, insisting on copyright or suggesting that the German way is the only possible solution to like problems Involved.

Brilain and Germany are heading in dilserent directions. In Britain established potterns are being dismontled, with the result that minorities such as Britain's coloured community no longer feels as sure of the tolerance of the majority as it used to.

In the Federal Republic social structures are growing more rigid, with the result that the majority is less safe from being paralysed by a minority such as air

This swing of the pendulum in differferent directions renders understanding belween our two peoples even more diffiguil and even more indispensable than might otherwise be the case.

Like poles may attract but, to switch metaphors, they also have little to say to each other. Communication is the result of differences, People in Britain and this country are similar enough to exercise a mutual attraction yet sufficiently different lo have something to say to each other. Rolf Breitenstein

1 (Frankfurlar Rundschou, 25 Mucch 1977)



Coation in Marburg in order to take tha

wind out of the sails of the five

Dr Wallmann was elected to the Bun-

destag in 1972, where he devoted himself

primarily to domestic policy and

legal affairs. At that time he became

known even outside Hesse in his capaci-

ty as the parliamentary administrator of

the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Party. He

cleverly and energetically presided over

the Enquiry Committee In the Guil-

Before the last Bundestag election he

was in the running as a candidate for

the post of Minister of Justice for the

CDU. After the Kreuth split between

the CDU and CSU, he became Deputy

Parliamentary Floor Leader, and retained

this position until the CSU returned to

Bonn and Warsaw

Continued from page 3

applied to local authorities in what is

Enough of these forms seem to have

been posted to the Polish authorities for

Warsaw to feel distinctly uneasy. The

Polish government is apparently worried

lest unrest spread in parts of the country

that used to form part of the Reich. The

anti-Bonn campeign was doubtless in-

Should Mr Gierek have decided to put

ties with Bonn to the test with such

fears in mind, he must surely have

Hardly had the Polish wave of protest

registered in this country but Chancellor

Schmidt granled Polityka, the Warsaw

his own Social Democrats of being re-

with Poland too. Ludolf Hernann

tended to spike these guns too.

found the outcome reassuring.

now Poland to reaffirm their claims.

Albert Bechtold

(Münchner Merkur, 23 March 1977)

Communist Council Members.

laume Affair.

HOME AFFAIRS

CDU takes over the SPD stronghold of Frankfurt

L of Hessa local government alections has earnad Dr Walter Wallmann (CDU) the Mayoralty of the city of Frankfurt, traditionally an SPD atronghold.

The election success came as a surprise to Dr Walter Wailmann, a former judgo and son of a secondary school teacher,

In fact, it is quite conceivable that he might secretly have hoped that the CDU, while gaining ground in the Hesse muneipal elections, would fail to

Mayor Rudi Arndt resigns

Rudi Arndl (SPD), Mayor of Frank-furt until the recent CDU landslide victory in the flesse muncipal elections, has a reputation for political tenacity and for having a skin which, though thick, has a sort of "Teflon effect", meaning that nothing sticks lo it.

Due to these qualities, it seemed as if Frankfurt's fifth post-war Mayor had a guarantea that he would grow old in office. When Rudi Arndt, 50, relinquished his post as Hesse Minister of Economic Affairs in favour of the Frankfurt Mayoralty in 1972, the latter job was generally considered a "gateway to death".

And, indeed, Arndt's predecessor, Walter Möller, died of a heart altack. And another predecesaor, Willi Brundert, wrecked his health in this post and died às a result.

.

Wemer Bockelmann withdrew from office in a state of total exhaustion and opted for the more quiet post at the Federation of German Cities in Cologne. Waller Kolb, the firat post-war Mayor, also wrecked his health and died in office.

The lethal chain has been broken by Rudi Arndt, who relinquiahed his office as a result of a lost election.

Tragically, the thoroughbred politician has to abandon the task of his life, namely the city of Frankfurt, at a moment when Frankfurt, for the first time aince the fifties, had recoon to hope that the prediction of its becoming "even lesa habitable than the moon" would not

Herr Arndt improved the financiel aituotion of this country's most indebted

Ha was also the motivating force bchind the creation of the "Frankfurt Environment Association" which made supra-regional environment planning posaible in the Rhine-Main area,

But Arndt was also the man who cashed the 200,000-deutschnark contribution to his party and who failed to take the necessity of properly entering this amount in the books aenously; and it was also he who played a role in affairs that led to the formation of three Hesse State Parliament Enquiry Committees in connection with the Helaba (Hesse State Bank) and similar affairs.

Hia premature resignation (he could have remained in office notwithstanding the election results) came under the influence of the psychological shock and a personal political catastrophe. But this resignation will enrich rather than impoverish lie municipal scene of Frankfurt since Arndt will be joining the City Parliament as a member of the Oppost-

tion. Hans Hellmuth Kannenberg (Kötner Stadt Anzeiger, 23 March 1977) long-overdue reforms on tha one hand

The CDU landslide victory in the stata achieve an absolute majority over the SPD/FDP Coalition when his party told him to campaign in Frankfurt as a vote-

> Now Dr Wallmann has to abandon his auccessul career in Bonn. But this is no problem for him, for he has always been a man of many parts. In fact, only once did he suffer political defeat within his own party. That was twelve years ago when he wanted to become State Chainnan of Hesse of the Junge Union (the CDU's young people'a branch) and was defested by Heinz Riesenhuber.

Dr Wslimann, a law graduate, went into politics in 1966. He became n member of the State Parliament and charlman of the Domestic Affairs Committee

Soon after he made a name for himself when, in a State Parliament debate, he called out to the then Premier of Hesse: "Mr Prime Minister, you are faced with the shards of your policy". But for a few years the SPD managed to glue these shards together.

Dr Wallmann has been a mayor once before - though only on paper. In 1970 he was elected Mayor of Marburg by the CDU. FDP and the Free Voters' Assoclation. But the election had to be repeated due to a formality. The FDP broke away, and the SPD candidate Drechsler became Mayor.

But Dr Wallmann, at that time CDU chainman for the Marburg-Biedenkopf and Central Hesse districts, helped the CDU gain a majority in the Marburg City Conneil. He has been the Council Chainnan ever since - an office which was previously held by the ex Federal Minister of Justice Gerhard Jahn. The two jurists get along well with each other. They formed the SPD/CDU

Continued from page 2

gate of a French opera in which, he re-

called the chorus keeps on singing

"Marchons, marchons!" but does not

Yet the sum total of views on detente

proved fairly positive despite the caustic

comments of a number of Federal Rc-

public politicians who have still not

come to terms with Bonn's East bloc

Detente, it was conceded, may not

have eliminated the East-West conflict,

but it has perceptibly reduced in num-

ber and intensity the crises that periodi-

cally upset relations between the two

In the process detente has presented

Would o "historic compromise" be-

een Italy's Christian Democrats and

Communista spell disaster for Europe

between Communists and Gaullists in

France would be an even moro upselting

prospect, It was argued, since both are

on record as being opposed to Nato, to

European Integration and to the United

ral Republic delegate maintained, gra-

dually to incorporate tha Italian Com-

munist Party In political decision-

making. This, ha argued, might accelerate

So it might be advisable, or so a Fede-

and Nato? A "hysterical compromise"

hoth sides with fresh problems, Euro-

communism in the West and civil rights

movements in the East.

move an inch in the process.

and speed up the break between the CP

and the Kremlin on the other. As for East bloc dissidents, the West would do well to steer clear of the Woodrow Wilson syndrome and not give rise to exacetations of freedom which it is subsequently unable to fulfil.

Over the years Britain and this country have reversed their roles in virtually every respect. This country used to admire Britein's democratic institutions; now the British are gazing longingly at the organisational lining of the Germon

They are quick to eak how the "corrcerted action" lalks between unions, employers end Ministry officiela work, and then to wonder whether arrangements of this kind can profitably be exported in any way.

ring the praises of the good Europeans collects membership dues and donoted of the Rhine - Europhyers, indeed, to to the tuna of 200,000

paraphrase the German word. When it came to cash, especially the deutschmark, e complete volte-face was very much apparent. The German suddenly found themselves arguing along cautious, pragmatic lines that used to be Britain's forte, while the British indulged in full measure in the flights of fancy that used to be the hallmark of German idealism.

The two sides certainly seem to have learnt a trick or two from each other in Königswirter over the years.

Josef Joffe: (Frankfurter Rundschau, 26 Merch 1977)

Citizens' action organisation continues to grow

he chairman of the Bundesiede." Bürgerinitiativen Umweltscho BBU (Confederation of Cilizen's Inite tives for the Protection of the Entire ment), Hans Helmuth Wüstenhagen, au sald: "Nothing would be nicer thatify could disband again."

But the BBU is now further remod from dissolution than ever before h power is growing from day to day re so is the number of its members.

. BBU is the umbrella organisation for some 1,000 citizens groups which t cording to its chairman, who has be In office for the past four years, co: prisc about 300,000 citizens fighting against nuclear power, noise, dit it the spoiling of the landscape,

The BBU and its chairman who known nation-wide, consider it ms Important that the internal structure the organisation remain unchanged a unassailable in the face of success.

Contrary to general assumpti-Wüstenhagen heads a democratic of nisation. Its delegates meet once in and every citizens action group four part of the umbrella organisation hate tween one and five representation depending on its numerical strength.

Organisations which want to join the BBU must have at least 50 member and thus prove that they can called the citizens' support for their cause. Intent decisions are regulated by the statutes one of the prerequisites being non-partisanship. This keeps extremists out of the organisation.

daily, an interview in which he assured Poliah readers that relations between The 13-man executive committee of Bonn and Warsaw were in the plnk of the BBU is an elected body. Equipped with such a mandate, Heir Wüstenhagen Helmut Schmidt has been accused by and other executive committee member negotiate issues concerning environmeprotection roughly fifty times per a sponsible for setbacks in Ostpolitik. He does not want to be saddled with troubles nuin on Bonn Stata Secretary or Cable

Hans Helmuth Wüstenhagen's & (Deutsche Zeltung, 1 April 1977) tionship with politicians is not exact cordial. Says he: "They usually don't al us in until their problems bear unmanagcable." Usually his encounts with politicians take place in the if of confrontations.

> They know very little, says He Wüstenhagen, and are only just begin ning to concern themselves with b nation's vital problems. Had they des so in good time. Wüstenhagen mir tains, there would be no citizen's inite

> Hons Helmuth Wüstenhagen, active member of the FDP, was at of time a counsellor in the pharmaceulist induatry. He became interested in eat ronniant protection when the city. Kerlsruhe wanted to establish an airus approach corridor dangerously close?

Today he heads an association which British delegates found it far easier to according to his own rough estimate per autumn.

According to Herr Wüstenhagen, 18 BBU receives 250 letters a day, all which have to be answered. Schools if tizens' groups and Individual cilizens is for information material. According to Herr Wostenhagen,

rethinking process on the environment has progressed further omong the zens than among institutions. Thus, Instance, the trade union leadership slow to "see the light":

Rolf-Peter Henke (Frankfurier Neus Presse, 28 March 1919)

LAW

Experts differ in court on effects of life imprisonment

The first panel of the Bundesverfas-L sungsgericht (Ihls country's Constilutional Court) began on 22 March a two-day hearing on the conslitutionality of Paragraph 211 of the Criminal Code which makes life Imprisonment innndatory for murder.

The case came before the Bundesierfassungsgericht when a court in Verden refused to impose the mandatory life imprisonment sentence on an ex-policeman from Berlin. The policeman, who has meanwhile been sentenced for drug trafficking, stood trial for and was convicted of having "heinously and in order to cover up his own criminal acts" shot dead one of his pushers with three hullets in the back.

Although the Verden court considers the guilt of the accused proved beyond reasonable doubt and although the murder was committed with malice afore thought which ealls for mandatory life imprisonment, the court considers Paragraph 211 of the Criminal Code unconstitutional because it deprives the judge of any leeway in passing sentence. In this particular case, says the Verden rnling, long-term imprisunment of not more than 15 years would have been adequate punisment.

Essentially, the Verden court considers mandatory file imprisonment for first degree murder unconstitutional for three reasons, nithough the lengths summation of the court reads in some places as if it-rejected-life imprisonment in general except in cases of genocide.

Firstly, the summation says, life imprisonment infringes on human dignity because of its personality-destroying effects. Secondly, it violates the basic right of personality development in accordance with that passage of the Constitution which states that basic rights in toto are inviolate end the freedom of movement guaranteed by the Constitution is entirely nulltiled in the case of life imprisonment.

And thirdly, the Verden court maintains, mandatory life imprisonment violates the principle of equality by imposing such a penalty in the case of first degree murder only whereas, in the ease of manshughter (premeditated murder without the particular criteria of first degree murder), the court has an option of imposing tife imprisonment or a

According to the Verden court, there is no absolute necessity for this inequality of treatment. There are forms of first degree murder which are criminally no more reprehensible than certein types of manslaughter.

In so-called "concrete standard control procedures" the Bundes verfassungsgenicht exmines the constitutionality of a law under all conceivable aspects.

The present case before the Constitulional Court is of particular political significance because the Federal Ministry of Justice is at present examining plans whereby lifers would have their enses reviewed with regard to s possibility of parole or whereby a reviaw would have to take place automatically after 12 or 15 years of life sentence has been served.

According to the plans of the Federal Ministry of Justice, parallel to such reviews the State Premiers would still exercise the right of granting pardons for those sentenced in their respective states

But within the coalition SPD-FDP Parliamentary Parties in Bonn there are also some trends to eholish life imprisonment altogether. But it is certain that the lawmakers' plans will not be implemented before the Bundesrerfassungsgenicht has ruled on the present case and such a ruling is not expected before the end of this year.

Although it is generally not assumed that the Constitutional Court will declare life imprisonment unconstitutional in all cases, its miling will have its effect on the plans of the Ministry of Justice and the ecalition parties by either strengthening them in their endeavours or by restricting their scope of action.

The proceedings at the Bundesverlassningsgericht are being attended by observers from seven Federal states and the Federal Ministry of Justice as well as the former police officer who triggered it although the latter is not a party to the proceedings.

Eleven experts have been asked to present their views, and Bundesverlassungsgericht Justice Hans-Joachim Talfer presented statistical material collected by the second panel of this Court in connection with constitutional complaints of tifers with which the Court had dealt in previous proceedings.

According to this material, 1,915 prople were sentenced to life imprisonment in the period from 1943 to 1975. Of these, 90 per cent were men.

Almost half of them were aged between 21 and 29 when sentenced and ilmost 80 per cent between 21 and 40; 46 per cent had no precious criminal re-

Frankfurter Allgemeine

cord, 140 of these lifers died in prison; 702 were pardoned after an average of 20 years imprisonment; 70 per cent of lifers spent more than 15 years in pri-

According to Justice Faller, neither the Federal Ministry of Justice nor the Baverian Prime Minister, who was specifically questioned on this topic, consider life imprisonment unconstitutional. The same applies to the five criminal panels of the Federal Court of Appeals.

On the first day of the proceedings experts presented their views on the question whether life imprisonment causes irreparable damage to the personality of the prisoner.

Professor Peul Bresser, a specialist in forensic medicine, answered this question with a cautlous "no". His views were based on his participation in "sofor proceedings to grant pardon to lifers in Northrhine-Westphalia and on examinations of pardoned lifers after their release from prison. According to Professor Bresser, :hls

social forecasts concerning more than 100 lifers whom he had to examine with a view to a pardon ware favourable. and subsequent rehabilitation successes, he said, justified his thesis that lifers suffer no personality damags. Said Professor Bresser: "Eyen axtremely long terms of imprisonment must not necessarily lead to personality deterioration."

Professor Bresser drew attention to terminology difficulties in assessing the effects of life imprisonment. Before proeecding any further, he said, we must clarify what the term "personality" in cans. Only once this has been done can we meaningfully speak of "destruction of personality".

For Professor Bresser, "personality" is the overalt person as determined by his experiences, his attitudes to life and his ability to mould his own existence. The difficulties in assessing the effect of life imprisonment lie, according to Professor Bresser, in the fact that no one knows much about the personality of the person concerned before he entered prison,

Generally apeaking, the inclination to commit murder is already the nadir of nersonality deterioration. Thus the aleterioration of personality which is trequently considered the result of imprisnument usually occurs prior to imprisonment, manifesting itself in the enmmitted murder.

Bearing in mind the low initial personality standard of the neonle concerned, imprisnment usually has a positive effect. Professor Itresser stressed that this must not be viewed as a plen in fayour of life imprisonment, but that he was merely described its effects as he-

Two practitioners of the penal system took the stand after Professor Bresser. Essentially they described individual cases from their experience and freely granted that the material available to them was relatively limited.

Bolh these practitioners - the former Warden of the Women's Prison in Preimgesheim. Dr. Helea fansele, and the Warden of Hamburg's Fuldsbüttel Prison, Hans-Dietrich Stark - tended to go along with the thesis whereby the lifer's personality invariably deteriorates after a certain term of imp

Dr Einsele told of her own experience with 20 women serving life terms, who were convicted in the period from 1947. to 1957. Twelve of these women had murdered their husbands, Itut even in the case of those who did not kill their husbands, ties with the spouse did not last through the term of imprisonment.

Dr Einsele spoke of health deterioration and premature aging, especially among elderly women who were sentenced to life imprisonment.

In his report, Fuhlsbitttel Warden Hans-Dietrich Stark put forwerd a pleafor a modern penal system in general and used this opportunity to voice specific complaints about the existing system. His report centred around what he

termed "total correctional institutions", whera work, leisure time end partner relations, are ell lumped together. Herr Stark reported about this experienecs with 71 lifers. All of them showed

signs of damage attributable to such a

'total Inatitution.' Herr Stark went on to say that we must do awey with the prejudice that lifers are particularly dangerous people. He potnted out that individual clothing (non-prison garh) and decoration of his cell according to the Inmate's taste helped the prisoner preserve his personality.

After expressing his views on the enal system in general rather than just life imprisonment, Herr Stark orrived at the following conclusion: Reaignation and adaptation to a life behind hars set in after the fifth or tenth year In prison. Said Herr Stark; "No man can do penance for more than ten years." After ten years the priaoner no longer relates his punishment to his crime. Therefore, apart from the aspect of safeguarding society, Imprisonment for more than ten years is meaningless.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zellung für Deutschlend, 23 March 1977)

New contracts law to protect the consumer

s of I April 1977 our citizens will A he able to throw away their magnifying glasses which they heve hitherto nceded to real the much-dreaded fine print in contracts. This, In any event, is how the Federal Ministry of Justice in a brochure circulated in ono million conies explains the new consumer protection laws in its chapter on "General Terms of Business".

Up to now, the law intervened only when such basic principles es the "freefom of entering into o coritmet" ond the equitability of a contract were placed in jeopardy by unsernpulous businessmen.

As Federal Minister of Justice Hans-Jochen Vogel put it in Honn on the occasion of the coming into effect of the new General Terms of Itusiness, such infringements were particularly prevalent in instalment purchases, insurance contracts and in brokerage contracts for housing. New legislation governing package tour contracts is still under debate

The new regulations governing Geneial Terms of Business centre primarity around clauses which have now become illegal. The following points are of particular importance to the consumer:

• If for instance an order form states "delivery on 1 July" in the front. any clauses on the back of the form saving that "the foregoing delivery date is not binding" is automatically invalid

. The "fine print" must be easily readable and understandable even without gnity ing glass. Liscape etauses such as "delivery as soon as possible" are impermissible.

 Equally impermissible are price increase clauses for goods or services in cases where delivery of the goods or rendering of the services is to take place within four months from the conclusion of the contract.

· Clauses which, curiously enough, always impose penalties for non-performance on the part of the customer and never for non-performance on the part of the seller, are null and void.

 Null and void are also non-liability clauses such as "the buyer relinquishes all recourses" or "the guarantee does not include damage for which usually no guarantee is granted, es for instance, mirros and spacial vencers."

• Inadmissible is also the hitherto much practised charging for transportotion, labour and material costs within a guarantee period. As of I April, such costs must be borne solely by the seller for the duration of the guarantee.

As Allmister Vogel put it, "The new law enforces the citizen's freedom to enter into a contract which is guaranteed to him by the basic right of free personulity development.

But there is still a big bugbear inherent in the new legislation. Municipalities are still excluded from all liability for non-performance involving claims for damages in connection with the supply of gas and electricity. And the Postal Authority is excluded from liability in ita telegram service even in cases where its staff has acted negligently - and even where it has done so intentionally - lo the detriment of the consumer.

Eberhard Nitschke (Die Wett, 28 March 1977)



Fifty thousand million deutschmarks not to be underrated either. If the client so wishes he can intervene and will ters and flutter serenely through to the bank accounts of private insumnce com-

Last year thirty million cleims were handled and 20,000 complaints were a difference between one agent snd lodged with the government agency in Berlin that functions as a court of ap-

This agency nonnally only hits the headlines when companies apply for an increase in premiums for compulsory policies, such as third-party cover for motor vehicles.

Only one in four of the 20,000 complaints was upheld by the Berlin agency. In motor insurance, for instance, procectings are instituted in only one per cent of casea. In other insurance sectors liligation is even more infrequent.

These are statistics the insurance companies produce year after year in order to substantiate their claim that relations between companies and policyholders are all sweetness and light.

But this is only half the story, It neatly begs the issue of dissatisfied policyholders who are simple not sure of their legal position and throw in the towel rather than take the company to court; they do so because of the risk of crippling legal costs.

What is more, claimants often settle out of court, making do with a bird in the hand even though they may be entitled in two in the hish.

Insurance companies' relations with their clients are doubtless no better or no worse than in other trades, professions or businesses, but they are not as untroubled as the statistics customarily quoted might appear to indicate.

For the layman insurance is unusually complicated because it provides a service that is invisible. That is why there has been much public discussion of late about Improving consumer safeguards in the insurance sector.

As a general rule public debates of this kind culminate in a demand for the establishment of fresh committees, commissions or bodies with whom complaints may be lodged and who will, it is hoped, perform a better service than their predecessors.

So it came as no surprise to learn that the latest idea is the appointment of an insurance ombudsman, an impartial official whose job it would be to follow up complaints, suggest solutions to shortcomings and generally provide advice.

Holland and Switzerland alresdy have insurance ombudsmen

Before going into the pros and cons it is worth noting the complaint facilities that insurance policy-holders niready have at their disposal

First, complaints may be lodged with the company itself. It goes without snying that if you are dissatisfied with the treatment you have received your first letter of complaint ie going to be sent to the insurance company's head

If the complaint is doalt with by the same assessor as beforehand, the likelihood of a more favourable settlement; is, of course, slender, which is why a number of companies have set up complaints departments of their own - undoubtedly a good idea.

The insurance agent's influence ought

often be able to bring about s more satisfactory solution. Successful, leading agents can frequently work wonders.

Viewed in this light there is obviously another. It is by no means necessarily six of one and half a dozen of the other.

In a number of sectors the terms of the policy expressly provide for certain bones of contention being submitted to independent tribunals.

In a dispute concerning indomnification in respect of an accident claim appeals may be submitted to a medical panel, for instance.

As far the usual householder's policy, the claimant may also apply to an independent tribunal to assess the damagea covered by the tenus of the policy.

The various insurance sectors also have national bodies and organisations. They are not entitled to impose a settlement when a dispute between company and policy-holder arises, but they can and do

Since associations of this kind are keen to maintain their members' reputations for fair trading they will usually act on claims that are of general interest,

In recent years the number of complaints lodged with the government agency in Berlin has increased by leaps and haunds - probably because an increasing number of people are aware of its existence.

It is not, however, a court of appeal in

Business as usual is very much the motto of Frau Dr Inge Lore Bähre,

who has headed the government's

watchdog agency supervising the activi-

ties of the banking profession since I

From her desk an Reichspietsehufer,

Berlin, she is keen to emphasise conti-

nuity as the byword of her agency's acti-

vities. In her inaugural address she

stated that laxity would not be con-

doned, but she is al pains to note that

the phrase she used had in fact been

On closer ocquaintanceship there can

borrowed from one of her predecessors.

be little doubt that she is the right per-

son for the job. She is a chain smoker,

but conveys the impression of self-as-

She is unmoved by the suggestion

that as a woman she tends to be particu-

larly strict. Stressing continuity slie

points out that she has been with the

agency ever since it was established in

As vice-president since 1971 and pre-

sident since 1975 she has never once

been accused of being "just tike a

woman" in the way she goes about her

Frau Bühre has been responsible for

surveillance of the activities of overseas

investment funds. Out of a total of 200

funds applying for permission to operate

in the Federal Republic she has given

She also testified to pluck and fore-

Of lale she has paid greater atlention

to the activities of public-sector institu-

sight in her handling of a spectacular bank crash resulting in the cessation of

activities by the Pfsiz-Kreditbank.

only 35 the go-alresd. !

surance and insperturbability.

October 1975.

settlement. Often it will reply to the effeet that it cannot be of assistance and the policy-holder will have to take his case to court.

Yet a letter of complaint to Berlin is always s good idea. The agency sets in a supervisory capacity to the insurance industry as a whole and companies are none too keen on being reported to Berlin more often than can be helped,

To some extent complaints rebound on the Berlin agency itself, which is responsible for terms of contract that are considered either incomprehensible or

The terms of policies are submitted to Berlin for approval, so the agency may find itself at the receiving end of complaints that a condition or turn of phrase it has deemed satisfactory makes no sense or is unfair to the policy-holder. So there clearly are occasions when even the Berlin agency, which may reasonably be considered to be on the consumer's side, feels overtaxed and would prefer to refer complaints to independent arbitration.

If the worst comes to the worst, claimants have no option but to take their cases to court, but there are good reasons why many prefer not to do so.

Litigation can cost a small fortune. and although you can take out insurance cover against the cost of court cases, cases of this kind are not covered except when the point at issue is a straighforward claim for damages.

What is more, few members of the the sense that it is entitled to impose a legal profession can lay claim to a tho-

agency for banks

hanks. Directors have been caught sell-

ing stocks and shares illegally abroad,

fined by the tax authorities and subse-

fession by Frau Bähre.

and every case.

lions such as local authority savings sterburg, East Prussia, In 1920, does not

quently banned from the banking pro-

Frau Bähre is a paint to emphasise

that such drastle action is aeldon; re-

quired and that a career ban is only im-

nosed aftar due consideration in each

Inge Lore Bähre, who was born in In-

rough grounding in the more out-of-the ordinary forms of insurance business and those there are usually work for the insurance companies themselves.

10 April 1977 - No. 782

Besides, both companies and their industrial organisations employ legal staff which means that they are generally a an advantage over the other side when cases come up before the courts.

Mind you, consumer associations have Increasingly concerned themselves with insurance matters of late. They too provide referral services.

Then too, there are the media Ania creasing number of policy-holders with to their local newspaper or to the hmal casting authorities in anticipation of a

Frequently this assistance takes the form of Information and the recommendation to address a complaint to the competent body. People are often un aware of the opportunities that are st ready open to them.

So is there any point in appointing a ombudsman as yet another institutes for handling complaints? Probably at He would just be yet another tink in the chain without affording substantial a-

Policy-holders would merely be en more confused than they already an What is more, ombudsmen cost many and are as liable to festoon thenselves with red tope as anyone etse in s simils

If an ombudsman is to be appointed he ought surely to amalgamate the existing facilities. He should exclusively service the sector extending from company complaints departments at one end to fitigation at the other.

He would, however, definitely need to be both independent and imparial and to enjoy the confidence of all concerned. Otherwise his appointment would be a waste of time. Arno Surminski
(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeltung
für Deutschland, 29 March 1977

dog agency is only consulted once it

politicians have had their say.

approve of differences in managemen Inge Lore Bähre selection procedures between private sel public-sector banking. heads watchdog But when it comes to senior management appointments by a Lands bank or savings bank her Berlin watch

. Candidates ere vetted and naninal by state and local authority government or officials and then referred to Beris for consideration of the nominee's sutability as a banker. Frau Balire is unhappy with this state affairs. Improvements could well & effected here and there, she feels Super-

visory boards of Landesbunken and savings banks are for the most part po litical appointees. She wishes they would demonstrate a greater sense of responsi bility in management appointments. Appointments in this sector are in quently made with party-political por porz in mind. This is not the yardstid

by which a banker should be measured and Frau Bähre: wishes her agency were not handed the can when political nominees do not measure up to the quirements of the position-

Inge Lore Billing is confident that peace and quiet will return to the bank. ing world before long. "I am not s plate

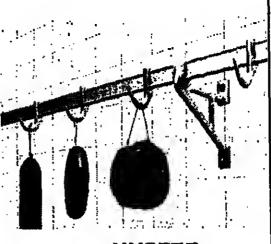
voyant, mind you," she adds.

Should it do so, much of the crew will be due to her. From Bahre feels the minimum reserve requirements, as the now stand are satisfactory, as are the opportunities of intervention placed har agency's disposal by recent legist She has been associated with banking

in one fonn or another all her working Continued on page 13

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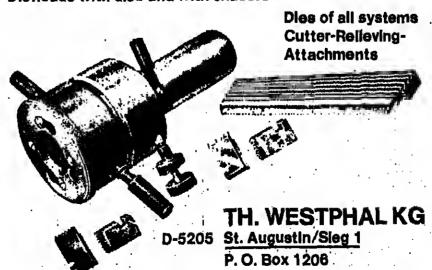
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LITERATURE

Till Eulenspiegel not just a harmless joker, says researcher

iil Eulenaplegel was no harmless position to obtain absolution through L jester, but a symbol of the davil. This surprising interpretation has been put forward by Bernd Ulrich Hucker, research assistant for history at the Teachers College in Münster,

Herr Hucker has thue lent new impetus to the research into the main eheracter of the Eulensplegel story, dating back to the early 16th century which has meanwhile been translated into 15

· Hucker coused a sensation two years ago when, in the eatalogue of a major Hamburg book auction, he stumbled upon the oldest Eulenspiegel edition daling back to 1510/11. He maneged to purchase this edition, which had been considered losi, relatively cheeply.

Stimuloted by his sensitional find, Hucker wont to work onalysing the text and arrived of an interpretation contmry to oll previous theories about the popu-

According to Herr Hucker, Eulenspiegel was neither a harmless lester nor an anti-authoritarian hero and projector on behalf of the peasants, but he symbol-Ised the devil whose misdeeds were recorded by the book's author Hennann Bote (abaout 1460 to 1520), a customs scribe, as o "deterrent example".

The 100 Till Eulenspiegel episodes depict the jester as the pratotype of an evil person who - frequently without any motivation — harms his fellow man; who cheats, teases, mocks, defies and, in the tniest sense of the word, besmirches cance.

The episodes conveved by Bote are studded with quotations from the Bible and other religious works of the time. They have been inserted in such a manner that - in conjunction with Eulenspiegel'a evil deeds - they can only be viewed as "perversion of the Christian way of life and, in some instances, as blasphemy".

In the course of his life Eulenspiegel withdrawa more and more from the Christien orbit and indeed acquires traits of the Antichrist.

Hucker arrives at the canclusion that the customs scribe Hermann Bote, e man of genuine lay piety, concaived his hero as a "negative figure" and a warn-Ing example almilar to Doctor Faustus as well as a deterrent for good Chris-

This intention does not immediately become obvious from the introduction which was written in the year 1500. But in characterising his Eulenspiegel episodes Bote makes use of e terminology with which his contemporaries were familiar from another work, the serve eple Reinke de Vos (1498).

There the tarminology is used to depict e depraved, diabolic person, and the individual stories are intended as edifying tracts,

t It is of secondary importance in thia connection that Hucker believes himself lo bo in a position to prove that Reinke de Vos was elso written by Hermann Bote. What matters is the parallel to Reinke (meaning the fox).

The fox, in this case representative of mediacyal supersur-sinful Man, passes through various stall tion, witches kissed Till Eulensplegel's statue in Mölln, where he is said to have been (Photof Interpress)

repenience.

The sinner Euleneplegel, too, is incapeble of genuine repentance, although all three branches of Christendom try toconvert hbn. Their effarts prove unavailing. In the end the representatives of monkhood, priestlood and laiety bid him "Go to Hell" in doing so they are unaware of how aptly they have spoken.

There are attempts et converting Eu-. lenspiegel in es many episodee - and Hucker considers this figure by no means coincidental since it provides the key to the structure of the book, which is governed by a eymoblism of numbers.

It is divided into groups of ten, five, eight and seven epieodes, while groups of three form important stations. Double episodee ereate transitions and

climaxes. The whole thing begine will the famous triple baptism of Till Euleneplegel and ends with the still myslifying three burlal episodes of the jester.

The final episodes, with their grueeame scenes, clearly depict Tili Eulenspiegel as an adversary of the Christion Order. Just as throughout itie life ail sagramenta failed to have any effect on him, efter his deeth, too, he boulks at a sacramentol funeral by the Church successfully so

In depicting his episodes, Hermann Bole availed himself of popular superstitions eccording to which events such as, the breaking of the ropes, the toppling! of the bier and the interference in the funeral by sows have demoniacal signifi-

Enlenspiegel is not only a jesier, in other worde an evil and eriminal person in terms of the 16th century, bul "the jester of jesters" -

the embodiment of evil. He apes Divine functions and pretends to foretell the future, to perform miracles and to be able to heal the aick. Bul whenever comes to the crunch 'all thet transpirea is an enormous hoax. Everybody who relies on him can be sure of being tricked, In Lübeck Eulenspiegel ia supposed to be hanged. When his time comes "he ta quiet, speaking not Word" According to Hucker, this is a conspicuous reference to the biblical Christ in his agony. But as opposed to. Jesus, Eulenepiegei was neither humble nor despairing in the face of death. He had the people prove their devotion to him by making them kiss that part of his anatomy. of his anstomy where, occording to

the backside. This gains him his freedom for under no circumetance is he willing to eacrific himself for the people.

THE GERMAN TRIBUNE

The anti-hero Eulenspiegel wes thus equipped with attributes of the Antichrist - all the way to parallele to the life of Jesua, but always in a negative or ridiculous form. He undergoes o development and mysteriously adapts himself to new situations. As a result Bernd Ulrich Hucker views tha Eulenspiegel baok as an early fonn of the prose novel and speaks of a type of "negative develop-

But Till Eulenspiegel ia nelther a novel about e jester, nor is it a mere collection of ribald episades. In a formal eeuse, the book is not so much doinlnaled by the natural phases childhood, vauth and old age - to which literary researchers hitherto attributed too much importance. - as by a number of eschetological stations extending from baptism to funeral.

The fact that in passing through these slations the jester aurprises time and again by hie foxy ruses has a comical effeel on the reader of today. .;

In the 17th and 18th centuries he was still considered a ne'er-do-well and when the book was recommended as reading matter this was only done as a warning not to become like Till Eulensplegel.

It is as yet impossible to forefell the consequences of the new Eulenapiegel interpretation. In all likelihood the question as to the historical figure of Till Eulenspiegel will have to be reconsider-

If his gravestone in Mölln near Libeek is anything to go by "Till Eulenspiegel!" died by 1350 and was buried in the St Nikolal cemetery there.

But Hucker is rather sceptical as lo the actual historical existence of the jester. Says he: "Perhaps we have been led asiray - and not only with regard to the authorship of the book." Norbert Frie

(Die Wett, 23 March 1977)



Samizdat research centre opens in Munich

Following three years of preparate the International Samizdel Research Centre and Archives, Munich, has to begun Its work.

The Centre is located near Music University with whileh it will coopen elosely. It has been financed by the Volkswagen Foundation and other p vate foundations in the Federal Read lic. Switzerland and the United States

Samizdst Is a Russian contracti meaning as much as self-publication; is based on the former Saviet contre tion "Gosisdat" (Stele publishing home but it is also reminiscent of "Samoge" (moonshine liquar).

Samizdat publications are manusin sold under the counter in the Soit Union. They are usually duplicated typewriter and - especially in the of books - by phatographic method One of the first Samizdet joke, to is still being told to fareigner, a

more or less as follows: "What are you typing there, ami

"War and Peace by Count Leo Tole!

for my granddaughter." "But thet's required reading, and ja can buy it in any backstore."

"Sure, but my granddaughter mi only Samizdat."

Researchers from 12 countries was involved in the establishment of the Samizdat Research Centre, They hait! from Britain, the United Ststes, Hotland the Federal Republic of Germany France, Italy, Norway, Israel and Japan.

The Gennan founding members an Professors Dietrich Loeper of the Ur. versity of Kiel and Nikolaus Lobkowi of Munich University. The first direct of the Munich Research Centre is ! fessor Martin Dewhurst, an expent: Russian and Soviet literature, of Class University. Professor Dewhurst has is University. Professor Dewnurst not been appointed a guest lecturer at h nich University.

The Research Centre was domicik! Munich primarily because Munich ! great many researchers on Easteral rope, among them members of the is tuta for USSR Studies, which was do by the Federal Republic, and which lished Who's Who in the USSR.

Another reason far slting the Co In Minich wos that Radio Liberty Rodio Free Europe, which are lorant that city, have the greatest collected Soviet Samizdats. Moreover, Radia E Europe also owns the largest collects of Somizdat texts from the non-So countries of Eastern Europe.

Radio "Liberty usually broads around the clock in the languages de Sovlet Union, while Redio Free best - also broadcasting eround the closadresses liself to the smaller men notions of the Warsaw Pact and Co

The Radio Free Europe/Radio Incorporation stated that it was to place its Samizdat collects. disposal of the Semizdat Centre

eearch purposes, free of charges.

The American lawyer All
played a major role in found
Centre and has been appointed the
clal adviser. In the period from 1981 1976 he compiled a 22 volume Sanseries of Radio Liberty for cities bloc research centres in the States, and In Western Europe Edinand To

ECINEMA

Hitler epic by film-maker Hans Jürgen Syberberg

A gives rise to heated emotions. Take Marlene Dietrich, for instance. Marlene of the fabled legs, herolne of the thirties' film epie The Blue Angel, recently announced through her French lawyers that ahe intended epplying for a court Injunction sgalnst the title and final seene of the film Adolf and Marlene.

Ulli Lommel, director of the film that promised to be the subject of litigation. promply announced o retaka of e number of scenes starring Adolf, pleyed by Kurt Raab, and Marlene, played by Marall Carstensen.

Lounnel is by no means the only film-moker currently working on the life and times of the Führer. Joachim C. Fest, author of o standard biography of Hitler, is currently engaged in putting the finishing touches to a i.2-milliondentachmark, ninety-minute documentary entitlad Hitler - A Career. He has scoured the globe far two years in search of material for inclusion in his compilation.

Last but not least, Munich film-maker lisns Jürgen Syberberg hes just compicted twenty days of shootbig at Bavaria'a Geiselgasteig studios. Syberberg's film, entitled Hitler in uns - A Film from Germany, Land of Progress, will cost a reported one million deutsch-

Syberberg, who was a little fatigued after a hard day's shooling when interviewed by Kölner Stadt Anzeiger, insisted that his title was definitely intended to be programmatic.

The film will, however, be very much his (Syberberg's) own work both intellectually and aesthelically, referring to such a wide range of Weatern tradition to such an extent that he was rather alanned at the idea of Hitler as a tag.

He would much prefer Hitler in hie fdm nol io assume the proportions of "an Inordinately omnipolent figure In terms of intellectuel history." He does, on the other hand, taka Hitler seriously and regards him (protracted pause while the tries to find the right epithet) an the "gravedigger of the West."

Hana Jürgen Syberberg was bom in Pomerania in 1935, grew up in the GDR and holds a PhD in Germenic studies. He now lives in Munich where he is a freelance film producer and director.

He made his first mark with documentaries such as Fritz Kortner rehearses 'Kabale und Liebe' (1955) and Sex Business, Made in Pasing (1969), in which he took the lid off sex fdm-maker

In 1968 he directed Scarabea an adaplation of Tolstoy'e short etory 'How Much Land Does A Man Need? In 1970 he followed it with a film version of Helnrich von Klelet's novella San Do-

Yet Syberberg felled to break Ilirough 10 a wider public elther with these early works or with subsequent output. Maybe Il is because his work his always made considerable intalieciual demands on the

He first hit on the Ideo of a Germon trilogy during work on Ludwig - Requiem for a Virgin King in 1972. Hiller and Kerl May, the Iste nineteenth cenlury writer of adventure books for boys, ere the other two. Syberberg made a three-hour film on Karl May in 1974 which was recently ahown on ZDF.

dolf Hitier's is still a name that Channel Two of Federal Republic TV. Both Adolf Hitler and Karl May put in en appearance in his film ebout the allegedly insane mid nineteenth century King of Bavaria - as o nightmare seen by the hapless Ludwig in a Venus Grotto reminiacent of Wagner's Tanuhanser.

Syberberg himself tenns this reference "somewhat neive". With the passage of lime he has come to ace a closer link between Ludwig II, Karl May and Adalf Hitler. The composer Rielard Wagner undeniably influenced all three.

So to be exact it will be a German tetralogy, not a trilogy, part four being like five-hour documentary Winlfred Wagner and the Tale of Hans Walmfried (1975), which is to be screened in full by Weatdentseiner Rundfunk during the Easler period.

Hitler in mis is also envisaged as a five-hour blockbuster co-produced by Federal Republic TV, the BBC and France's ORTF with financial backing from the Bonn Ministry of the Interior and the Film Promotion Institute.

It will previously be given cinema showings, but Hans Jürgen Syberberg does not expect the film to be a moneyspinner. He feels it will prove an outsider, with too many "negative thresholds' placed in the viewer's way for it lo earn a fortune at the box office.

Syberberg's Hitler film will deal with the phanomenon of the man in 23 episodes, but "the phenomenon", he adds, "is his supporters, are ourselves. I feel we are proving faithful executors of Hitler's legacy, and this the film is intended

Unlike Staiin, say, but very much like Ludwig II and Karl May, Syberberg argues, Hitler was the result of a fullscale papular movement, and in such easee it is always hard to decide whether tha man made tha movement or vice-

But tlds media dependence from both above down and below up is, tha Munich film-maker continues, "doubtless what mekes boll the man and his repercussione unique."

Syberberg's film is intended to be naither a historic reconstruction nor tha tale of an onti-liero. In order to impress upon the viewer that "each one of us possessee some characteristic or other of Hitler, who himself was a man of many parts," the entire cast play the part of Ilitler in addition to their own.

"Hiller," Syberberg claims, "will be an extremely fractured figure, in no way reduced to the atalus of a great actor."

In sestlietle terms Syberberg's latest film recalls his Virgin King. Shots are projected on to a gigantic backdrop and the cast act out their parts in front of this background "in a world entirely of their own, in their own dimension of rooms and strange forms that take on the shape of reality within the specta-

The Third Reich made great play with symbolism derived from heraldry, uniforms and rhetoric, Everything in Syber-

Hans Jürgen Sybarberg

berg's film is similary intended to be of powerful symbolic effect.

"At this point my concept of fonn coincides with that of the Nuzis," he says, "so that I in my way do them Justice - but I tum them unside down. It will be a Nazi world but turned topsyturvy and reduced to the absurd by meana of aesthetic atratagems."

We ahall not know until this autumn whether or not Hana Jürgen Syberberg has done his own expectations justice, but he will shortly be showing a few clips from his footage in Dusseldorf, afterwards answering questions in a debate entitled Kitsch and Tragic Consequence.

Rolf Thissen (Keiner Stadt-Anzeiger, 23 March 1977)

B ferkampf is the name of the latest film directed by and starting Herbert Achternbusch Achtembusch, aithough personally captiveted by classics of the commercial screen such as Hus in his latest film Ion's African Oucen or Mankiewicz's Barefooted Countess, has remained true lo himself, an uncring outsider in the

Aehtembusch does not seem to care two hoots about the viewing habits or entertainment requirements of the general public. He films the way he lives end what he experiences, bombarding the viewer with sequences or shots regardless of the logic of his atoryline, going all out for grotesque situations, absurd confrontations and unrealistic connections regardless whether or not the viewer may be able to follow.

film industry.

Rather like Karl Valentin, Achtembusch concentratea on a theme on which he produces variations guided only, if that is the word, by flights of

Despite the title, the thams of his latest film is, in fact, unifonns. Beer, as in all Achternbusch films, is a drug and means of communication. Come to think of it, tife as ha sees it eeems to lake place mainly in bors. But the thread that runs through the new Achternbusch is that of authority usurped by meana of a uniform.

Herbart, the licro (played by Harbart Achtambusch), has stolen a policemon's uniform and decided to ece what effect hie new identity has against the promisbig backdrop of the Munich Oktober-

But trouble tirreatens in the shape of his brother-in-law, who feels the newcomer must be Herbert despite the uniform, and even more imminently in that of the police officer whose uniform he has atolen - he auddenly spote the police officer working off-duly as a sau-

Herbert Achternbusch both directs and stars



HerbertActicembusch (Photo: Erich Schmid)

lenges to his new-found authority. dances like a dervish through tha drinking messes (who are mainly out for e good time, but at times aggressive) and gradually grows more oggressive himself.

He gives women the glad eye, drinks beer from other people's glasses, stages niniature attacks on harmless Oktoberfest imbibers, makes jokes at other people's expense, nearly gets thrashed and ends up conducting the brass band on the stage.

Other drinkers find him amusing, but Herbert suddenly starts to take himself aeriously. He is persuaded that he in sage vendor in the beer tent. what he eppears to bo — a polleeman.

The hero manages to skirt these chel-

proved to the notice force that he releases the safety catch on his police pis-

This logle is a far ery from Murnau's The Last Man, in which George is unsble to cope with the loss of his uniform, or Zuckmayer's Captain from Köpenick, in which the hero dons the mantle of on Anny officer in order to cut through red tape in pursuit of what he considers to be his rights.

In Achternbusch's Bierkampf the uniform proves the wearer's undoing.

Yet Achternbusch's latest film fails to come up with the memorable sequences of last year's Die Atlantikschwimmer, which was a vislonary masterpiece of the absurd about advertising and the indivi-

There may be much to be said in defence of Bierkampf but it does not seem to match Die Atlantikschwimmer in either its radical approach or its beauty of detail.

. At times Bierkanipf marks time and provocative bahaviour by the hero masquerading as e policeman (scenes improvised in a real-life been tent) seema

somewhat vague and tends to fall flat: ... Achternbusch evidently experienced difficulty in arranging his material. He relled overheavily on the atmosphere of o beer lent proving absurd in itself,

When he chose to lend o hond wonderful, albelt exaggerated, sequences resulted, but Achternbusch's reality and that of the beer tent ricver really found a common denominator, not even in contradiction.

Yet Herbert Achternbusch's penodic flashes of genius nonetheless render this tragleomedy so undenlebly superior to recent elnematic output in tills country thal Bierkampf, deepite its shortcomings, remains a work of cinematic art that is well worth seeing. Eckhardt Schmidt.

(Doutsche Zeitung, 25 March (977)

EDUCATION

Homework a burden for both child and parents, say teachers

A mong the many problems of our society there is one which educative are exposed. tionalists and experts in family affairs have so far largely Ignored. The reason for this is that the psrents of schoolchildren have a certain reluctance to point out this problem and call a spade a spade.

This problem involves the inclusion of the parents in the schools' performance requirements which have lately given rise to widespread criticism.

In other words, it seems Ilial the schools can only maintain the standards of performance required of them by enlisting the active support of parents. But neither lawmakers nor educationalists have as yet asked themselves whether parents are willing and in a position to cope with this additional burden - especially in view of the fact that family structures are becoming more and more

The head of the Centre far New Teaching Methods st Tübingen University, Walter Zifreund, likeried our schools to a slice factory which, instead of providing complete shoes, gives the customer a box containing soles, uppers and heels, expecting him to assemble the shoe

The whole thing goes under the label of homework, and the schools act as if the majority of students could limitle this work without outside help.

Unfortunately this whole system is, as Herr Zifreund pnt it, an illusion, because the entire setup of semi-finished products would collopse in practice if it were not for the mothers who have become the slaves of our schools.

Says an elementary school teacher and member of the Child Protection Society: "Even in elementary schools the children would be unable to cope with their homework without parental help."

And yet, if polls are anything to go by, 95 per cent of parents and teachers eoniser homework "useful" or "very useful", notwithstanding the meanwhile generally recognised harmful effects of our performance-orientated educational sys-

This utilitarian woy of thinking to some extent explains why parents are prepared to submit to the demands placed on them with regard to their children that they are loved, want-

In the past few years dyslexia has more

and more been used to describe end

excuse below-standard performance by

leachers, students, educational policy

inakers and parents.

But a major problem is the parents' inability to understand educational innovations such as New Math and "tolsl reading" to which they are unaccustomed from their own school days and which they therefore have to learn from scratch.

And what about equal opportunity which our school system is supposed to provide and which can certainly not be provided by such methods, since children whose parents are unable to play the role of lulor are clearly at a disad-

Thus, aware of their impolence vis-avis the school as a distributor of socia opportunities, most parents resignedly permit Themselves to be pressed into this lutor role because they must ge their children through school, come hel or high water

As a result, the lung march through the various stations of our modern certificate factorics leads to parents having to relinquish their own interests. It also leads to a loss of faith, love and confidence on the part of the children - ns indicated by reports of doctors, psychologists and educationalists — and frequently ends in phobias, psychiatric syndromes and nicoholism among schodehildren.

Many of these children fall prey to these conditions. The growing number of suicides among students, triggered by failure at school, is only the tip of a gigantic iceberg of psychological disturbances created by excessive performance requirements on the part of psreats and The schools.

In his book Umgang mit der Schule (How to Hondle School), Horst Speichert recommands a prophylactic concept as first aid for parennts confronted with ensis situation. Ssys Herr Speichert: "The help which children need must not consist in pressure, but in support against the demands of the school."

This means, above all, emotional support, if children - due lo their differing learning abilitles - are exposed to discouraging disqualification processes from the very beginning it can cause lasting damage to the child's self-esteem, and It is then up to the parents to reassure helping out with homework on top of ed and appreciated at home for what

they are snd not for their performance st school.

Only this can enable the children to face the next day at school and the competition this entsils with the necessary self-confidence.

But it is this very attitude which msny psrents find so difficult to adopt. lustead of acting as their children's prolectors and absorbing some of the school pressures, they frequently add to these pressures - usually with the best of intentions - by punishments such as withdrawal of play privileges, TV viewing time, pocket money and, in many instruces, by physical punishment and the withholding of affection.

A great many children must buy their parents' affection with good marks. In the name of a supposedly "beller

future", all this leads to a school-family relationship which makes the present intolerable for the child.

Says a secondary school teacher: "I have frequently discussed with my colleagues whether we should abolish homework allogether or perhaps give homework in a manner that would be fun for the children. But the subject of homework has become something of a holy cow, and no une dares to touch

The number of those who dured milk this eow - if only tentatively - on its nasture of empirical experiments is very small indeed.

There have been a mere four studies on the subject of homework made in the Federal Republic during the past twenty-five years - and even these disappeared in the flood of more than 500 articles on educational matters published every month

But this has probably suited the proponents of the drill method because these four studies would have destroyed the myth of the educational effect uf obligatory copying, repetition and learning hy heart.

There are perfectly practicable ways out of the homework dilemma. But the parents would have to insist that homework consist only of work which has been thoroughly explained at school and therefore does not have to be explained again by mother or father.

Until parents lake such u stand, says Professor Hellmuth Diwald of Erlangen himself the father of two ehlldren homework will remain the daily Stations of the Cross for parents.

Says Professor Diwald: "The ilemigods of our school system have yoked the parents to the vehicle of their school objective. As a result, the parental home remain the nation's auxillary E. Schirmbeck

(Daulsche Zellung, 25 March 1977)

Dyslexia still cannot be properly defined

The reading and spelling inadequacies of children with normal intelligence. which is frequently described by means of this now fashionable term, atill lacks

The Rhineland-Palatinnte Minister of Education Dr Hanna-Renate Laurien sald recently "We know that dyslectic children muke the same mistakes as others, only they make them more frequently. But we are also beginning to understand that we cannot crude educational responsibility by using clinical

As a result, says Dr Laurien, we should begin to leach reading and wiling in the same manner as we teach it to dyslectic children. If this were done, will continue with its Internotionally re-

much less dyslexia. In her assessment of the situation, Frau Laurien is supported by leading dysicxia experts who have arrived at the

conclusion that this condition is a mixture of plausible supposition and wan-Ion definitions without fixed symptoms. The experts assume that dyslexia is

being used to justify practical educational actions and that it has an allbi func-Ilon for teachers

Despite these problems with the phenomenon itself, Rhinelend-Pelalinale eognised supplementary education for This decision has been prompled by

the still unsolved question whether there is such a thing as a "hard core" of dyslectics whose inability to reud and spell is due to organic causes. Moreover, the supplementary teaching

of a child which is deemed to be dyslectic, with the attendant suspension of the marking system, can have psychologically beneficial effects and help the child to escape exsagerated demands on the part of its parents.

Minister Laurlen euspects that the reasons for the inadequecies in reading and spelling - some 14,000 children receive supplementary schooling in Rhineland-Palatinote in the school year 1976/77 - are primarily attributable to the fact that children in modern society are more easily distracted than earlier generations. M. Biermann

(Nordwest Zaltuns, 18 March 1977)

Stricter kerb drill urged for young children

To the edge of the pavement and further, should be the guiding in eiple for children of pre-school age the street - be they alone or with his

The edge of the sidewalk, bein which lurks the danger of automor motorbikes and bicycles, should dela nte the limits of a child's freedom movement until it has learned to me

This is the objective of the Gin Traffic Safety Council which, in tog ration with a West German TV netro has evolved a new five-parl childe series entitled "Dolli - Children in It fic" which is to be broadcast on Sur's afternoons from 17 April to 5 May.

Children are unpredictable in to. and tend to prove their counge h: tions which are frequently fatal. La: alone some 60,000 children unda: age of 15 were involved in trafficadenis, of which 1,150 were falal.

Children of pre-school age are mcularly prone to accidents. It is that: of paramount importance, says the leman Truffie Safety Council, for pair to provide an example.

Observations prove that adults a frequently anything but exemplay r their behaviour. A particularly freque mistake mode by adults is to crossstreet against a red traffic light whit children patiently wait for the light t change to green.

The only admonishment parents give lo children is usually just "watch out to the traffic". This, says the German Tr fie Safely Coundil, Is not enough so the very young ones do not even kn exactly what to watch out for.

The psychologists Maria Limber and Rudolf Günther established b only one in three four to five-year know how to cross a street at a next pace. Most ehildren just dash and heedless of the traffie.

Small children cannot sec with going on beyond a car. And threely olds have a hard line coming to al when running, nor can they disting from which direction a car-hom has come. Their concentration at: does not extend beyond 15 seconds.

Professor Gerhard Slöcker Würzburg has evolved a tima plan traffic education, since more than half all parents begin to teach their chile too late - usually when they are four

Professor Stocker recommends ! traffic education begin at the age three, when the child should be that it may not step off the sident and explained that it must stop whet? hears a car horn being sounded, A loc year old should be loid to use ils scott or trieycle only on the pavement.

But once children go to seno ahould atlain a certain degree Independence in traffic, following co ful lustruction by the parents. Too misconcern about the child can prove have

Studies show that children who M been over-protected by their parents who, until their second or third si year, have been laken lo school, much more in jeopardy than chile who have been less prolected, are me Independent and understand traffic and nlş.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 18 March 197

MEDICINE

No. 782 - 10 April 1977

High blood pressure, the killer with few symptoms

TTigh blood pressure is much more widespread than generally assumed. Some 40 per cent of deaths in the Federal Republic of Germany can, in varying degrees, be attributed to this dis-

If the ailment is recognised and treated in time it can be remedied, and many heart and circulatory ailments with fatal complications such as heart attacks and strokes could be prevented.

Alas, the carly diagnosis of high blood pressure is hampered by the fact that as a rule - the dangerous disease causes no physical complaints that would induce a patient to see a doctor. As a resull, locating the risk factor high blood pressure is one of the most important tasks of preventive medicine.

A study recently presented by the Badische Anilin- und Sodafabrik AG (BASF) on the frequency of high blood pressure among the working population was aimed primarily at locating people suffering from this ailment and inducing them to see their physician.

The study also wanted to track down changes in heart functions resulting from hypertension by means of electrocardiograms. Moreover, the scientists who worked on the study wanted to trace links between hypertension and other risk factors fur the heart and the circulatory system by means of laboratory tests.

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raquiremanta,

fjannoverjoje Allgemeine participated in the extensive field study

that was carried out in 1974. Within a span of six minutes, their blood pressure was measured three times in the vicinity of their place of work.

This initial lest proved that physical work must be considered an antidote for high blood pressure. Moreover, the field study confirmed the results of epidemiological research in the United States and in Europe whereby every sixth man and every ninth woman suffers from high blood pressure.

Two-thirds of hypertension sufferers knew nothing about their condition. And of those test persuns who knew about their condition only one in three was being trented.

This demonstrates the impurtance of preventive checkups and at the same time stresses the necessity of checking the blood pressure when carrying out a medical examination for whatever reason. If dus were done, every doctor could take preventive measures without the blood pressure test requiring much of his time.

The study has furthermore established that there is no connection between a person's height and his blood pressure, although there is a connection between blood pressure and overweight.

The researchers were surprised, however, to find that there was a link between smoking habits and hypertension. People who had never smoked frequently had high blood pressure, whereas the

blood pressure of former smokers was only minimally higher then normal.

According to Professor Wagner of the German Cancer Research Centre in Heidelberg, this must not lead to the fallacious conclusion that smoking prevents hypertension. In all likelihood there are other risk fsetors which play an important role. Thus for instance non-smokers are frequently more overweight than smokers, and elderly eigar smokers frequently have a higher cholesterol level.

Particularly startling was the observalion that smokers more frequently find blood in their unne than non-smokers. According to Professor Wagner "this is of considerable interest with regard to the discussion about a possible link between smaking and cancer of the hiad-Konrad Miller-Christiansen

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 March 1977)

Continued from page 8

life. During the war years in Herlin she was in trusteeship, having studied management economics.

She sets great store by personal contact with bankers, but work for the most part means paperwork, particularly the vetting af monthly reports submitted by the various banks.

She took a PhD in Göttingen in 1948 with a thesis on Stages in the Direction of a Definition of the Nature of Money. Until 1962 she worked in Hangver, mainly in the banking department of the Figance Ministry.

Fran Bähre usually works well into the evening, but she still manages to find time for her hobbies, which include cooking and embroidering East Prussian

Since taking over as head of the Beriin agency she has sue ting two bridal carpets. One is in regular use in a church near Hanover where her daughter-in-law is a clergywoman. Gerold Osterloh

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 26 March 1977)

Psychology helps fight flab

Cientists of the Psychiatric Clinic of ting it in my mouth" the scientists re-Göttingen University have developed a promising new therapy for obesity. They succeeded in Ireating appetite disorders in such a manner that 180 test women lost a total of 1.5 tons of weight within six mouths. Their therapy proved

successful in 70 per cent of the cases. The researchers began their work on dietary psychology seven years ago. By means of costly empirical tests they succeeded in tracking down the causes of aberrant eating habits.

In the course of their work they were able to prove that the obese are more influenced by outsido stimuli than by their bodies' control mechanisms in their dletary behaviour. Their appetite can be stimulated by

the time of day, the availability of food, stress, boredoni or loneliness. Although this dependence can be observed among peuple of normal weight as well, the latler still exercise control over their cating.

Based on this reglisation, the work group developed a programme in which the counting of calories is of secondary importance. Their aim was to teach their patients to observe theniselves, and to assess and reward themselves.

D-6901 Halligkrauzsteinech By guidelines such as "at home I'll only cat at the place designed for that purpose"; or "I only keep planned foodstuffs in the house"; or "I'll put a morsel on my fork and halve it before pul-

veal wrong habits and make their patients rethink.

The loss of weight is planned so that it will occur over an extended period and losses of more than one kilo per weck are considered undesirable.

Of particular importance is the creation of new "ersatz" outside stimuli. Recognition, reward end fear of ndicule within the therapy group as well as selfconfidence proved effective means of correcting aberrant behaviour during the six months of the test programme.

The care of the group has been devised in auch a manner that it can be placed into the hands of laymen.

Considering that some 20 million obese people are in need of treatment in this country, the scientists felt that only a programme which does not require specialists can be a success.

Moreover, the cost element is a major point in favour of the new programme. While a stationary zero diet costs about 500 deutschinsrks for every kilu of wight lost, the cost of the new programme would amount to a mere 7 deutschmorks per kilo.

The Göttingen group is determined to inke the bull by the honts. The next step will be the development of a psychotherapeutic programme for those 30 per cent of participania who fell by the wayside.

(Münchner Merkur, 24 March 1977)

Complete middle ear transplants prove a success

Drofessor Christian Below, Berlin, is still the only surgeon capuble of transplanting n preserved middle car in

He carried out his first transplant of this organ in 1959. Meanwhile, he has succeeded in restoting hearing without mechanical aid - in other words, a hearing aid — to 780 patients.

A transplant of the middle car is indicated when, fallowing surgery to remove that part of the ear, as frequently has to be done as the result of an infection, replacement becomes necessary. But the operation can also be carried out in cases of certain hereditary malformations, when it can resture full hearing ability to the patient.

The organs to he transplanted consist of parts of the eardron, the hammer, the anvil and the stirrups.

The transplant organs must be removed within 24 hours following death and preserved in a special solution at a temperature of four degrees centigrade. One week later they can be released for the

Transplants of parts of the middle ear are carried out all over the world today. While many organs of the middle ear can be implanted, the stirrups are usually replaced by a simple wire loop. In this manner hearing can be restored virtually completely, although success is not as convincing as in cases where a natural stirrup has been transplanted.

This operation can nuw be carried out by the method developed by Professor Betow, whereby the middle ear is transplanted as a whole

But such an operation can only be successful if the inner car is still operational. Moreover, the so called reserve of the inner ear provides the absolute limit for the extent to which hearing can be restored.

In most of the eases operated on by Professor Betow it was possible to achieve an improvement of between 20 and 30 decibels.

Most impressive is the case of a woman patient who, prior to the operation, was unable to hear sounds of less than 70 decibles. Following the operation she was able to understand whispers spoken at a distance of 30 centimeters from her ear.

The transplant aurgery of the middle ear is always estried out under local anaesihetic. The organ to be transplanted is attached by means of gelatine which dissolves after a while or can be sucked away later.

In the first few days after the operation the patient is treated with antibiotics and cortisone In order to prevent rejection of the new organ. As a rule, he can be discharged from hospital after

The new middle ear takes about four to six weeks to graft itself into position. Hearing is usually restored after six to twelve months.

A number of important advantages speak in favour of transplants. As opposed to a hearing aid, the surgery can restore full hearing. Furthermore, it prevents atrophying of the reserve of the inner ear, which virtually always occurs where mechanical hearing aids are used.

Konrad Müller-Christiansen (Frankfurjer Rundschau, 23 March 1977)



OUR WORLD

Children's villages offer the abandoned a new family



Chool holiday's are just about to Degin in Worpswede, near Bremen. Children at the SOS children's village are tooking forward to a rest from the trials and tribulations of learning.

In a way the holidaya will also make llfa essiar for the matrons who each look after a "family" of children. During term time children of various ages can ba homa from school at any time between half past eleven and two, clamouring for lunch and parched with thirsl.

During the holidoys Mstron Christiane Tetzlaff of House No. 6 can ba reasonably sure that her children will turn up at regulor hours for nourishment.

Her children are Lars, aged aight, Frank, aged twelve, Rita, aged thirteen, and Norbert, aged fourteen, in pleasurable anticipation of the Essler holidays they have just finished lunch and are working out how they plan lo spend the

Christiane Tetzlsff, betraying not the alightest sign of nerves, luvites the visitors into the peace and quiet of her own comfortable room with its view of a garden full of the harbingers of spring.

"You need good nerves - the hest to make the grade as a house matron here at the children's village," Frau Tetzlaff says.

She is not the sort who views lile through rose-tinted spectacles or is given to exaggerate the good points ond conveniently forgel the bad. Anyone who fancies her chances as o children's matron, she says, will need to be strictly down-to-earth. There is no such thing as a world in which chitdren are invertably well-behaved.

Christiane Tetzlaff may not describe her work in glowing, glorious colour, but she is clearly keenly convinced that she is doing a good job.

Including her current four she has been and continues to be a mother to fourteen young people. .

Frau Tetzlaff is a nurse by profession and started work at her first children's vitlage in the Black Forest In 1960. She "mothered" nine children there before moving to Worpswede twelve years ago:

Her ambition in life has been to help other people as directly as possible. She concedes that motherhood is more than a nine-to-five job but claims that sha

It can be hard snd unrelenting work, keeping her busy round the etock, and although she ond her children live like a normal family, additional problems do

Only one chitd in twenty is an orplian. Most come from broken homes and need to be rehobilitated with infinite patience ond care. Children are sent here in the first place on the recommendation of the local anthority.

Christiane Tetzlaff is firmly convinced that the educational principles of the children's villoge are sound but admits that there may be advantages to be spend two years in gruelling training be- derdorf matron who is now a "grandderived from placing children with fos-

ter-parents. "It dapends from one instance to enother," she says.

Mstrons at the various children's villages are certainly kept on their toes. They attend refresher courses and semhars whenever the opportunity arises in order to keep abreast of the latest developments in education theory and child

Whenever Frau Tetzlaff goes off on e weekend's course a atandby is at the ready to look after her four children in

The toughest problem you face In her line of work, sha reckons, is that of retaining a personslity of your own and not allowing jourself to be snowed under by the avalanche of work and the multituda of problems encountered by the children.

"It is far easier to intervene when you retain your own individuality and remain In a position to articulate wishes and damands of your own," Frau Tetzlaff odds. But she sounds a little doubtful, as though life in practice is slightly more

Whenever possible she tries to keep the "family" together. They either all play games around the family table, or slories are read and other ways and means sought of resisting the temptstion to switch on the TV set.

Ouldoor activities are also provided. The village itself has two ponles and a redskin encampment, Malron Tetzlaff likes to see her children make friends with children from outside the village.

This makes obvious sense: the more children they know outside their lm-

based is that seven or eight boys and

fore long gained worldwide populatity.

rity, SOS Kinderdorf International.

market town of Diessen.

working matrons.

the Bavarian Alps overlooking the small

It consists of eighteen individual

homes and the village centre, run by the

carclaker, who is the only man in the

village. The rest are women, the hard-

They come from all walks of life and



Matron Christiana Tetzlaff with her children

mediate circle, the less the SOS children will find that life centres around their

Therapy and social work are both writ large at the children's village. Berthold Dunkel, a young psychologist, not only provides individual and group therapy for the children; he also holds regular meetings of matrons to review problems and prospects. No one is left to his or her own devices.

Berthold Dunkel outlines the many ways there are of establishing a ralationship with youngsters - by means of educational leisure activities such as sailing, metal- and woodwork and other hobbies, for instance. They all combine both instruction and theropy, not to mention keeping the children busy.

Psychologist Dunkel has nothing but the highest praisa for the tireless matrons. He knows only too well how many enthusiastic volunteers turn un

(Photos: SOS-Kinderdeds) and how msny fail to mske the sake a punishing troining course.

Within the conventional confiner aid to young people the SOS childe. villages stand out as an uncomme effactive organisation. They result dren from the isolation of life in this dren's home and provide them silb & curity and stability at s there when the number of children in local author; csrs is on the increase and the numb of foster-parents on the decline.

Rehabilitation of a child deprived d family is a complicated and education ly demanding process. Staff at the 50 children's villages are both responsit and experienced.

What is more, they are not dognile and would be the first to agree that the organisation is only one of a number of wsys of helping parentless children. & one way does not preclude the other fosler-parents, for instance.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 26 March 191

Hermann Gmelner launched his SOS children's village more than 25 years ago. He came to realise during the 'Refuge' idea was hardships of the immediate post-war launched period that abandoned children need more than food and drink and a roof 25 years ago over their heads. What they need is a substitute for the parents they can no

one of the most rewarding jobs there longer call their own and a real home rather than the orphenage or children's can possibly be. Kate Greinwald is one of the women The idea on which his Kinderdorf is

who run the Kinderdorf. She used to be a maid but on reaching the conclusion, at the age of thirly-five, that she was not girls of various ages liva as a family with going to get married, she applied for a their matron in a home of their own In job as children's village matron. the children's village. The idea was quick to spread in this country and be-

That was seven years ago and she liks never regretled the decision for o moment. She is as fond of her six chil-There are now twelve SOS children's dren as if they were her own and they villages in the Federal Republic and call ber "Mummy" so naturally that nine in Austria. A further 118 villages in countries are modelled along similar Kilte Greinwald and her elilldren lines and backed by four million regular are a family.

contributors to Hermann Gmeiner's chaing very much brother and eister, as ex- go aliopping and make do with her Ammersec is the oldest SOS chilperionce over the past twonty years has sekeeping, money like any other hos dren's viltage in this country. The village is picturesquely located on a slope in

Frau Greinwald's neighbours are all Kinderdorf matrons of long standing who have brought up between fifteen and twenty boys and girls over the years. "Grown-up" children regularly revisit the vittaga and their own new brothers can call their own, Kinderdorf specific and sisters.

Some are now mamed with children of their own. Entire families revisit the an example that is gaining include village and pay their respects to a Kin- currency all over the world. fore embarking on what they all agree is mother."

It is not difficult to divine what he made Hermann Gmeiner's ldea such. success. His chitdren's villages imbo the children with a feeling of not bein alone in the world. Kinderdorf kids in o home of their own where they we ways welcome.

Not even the best-run convention children's home is in a position by vide such a sense of security white plians and children from broken bel so budly need to gain the scilet dence that ought to be a child's but

Specialists have since confirmed all Herniann Gmelner sensed intultively! quarter of a century ago. Children, " pecially small children, need a ses relationship with an adult if they are come Into their own.

They also need experience of everyth there cannot be any doubt whatever that the children's village needs not served in a conteen and clou not handled by a leundry. Matter The children themselves grow up feel- cooks for her own "children" and helwife and mother.

SOS children do not attend an Inst tional school either; they go to local primary or sacondary school. dren must be given every encount

The SOS children's villages have

(Kleler Nachrichten, 19 March 18)

SPORT

Football's Grand Old Man Sepp Herberger turns 80

and coachad the national soccer team for 28 years. He has been the subject of reams of commentary in his time and congratulations have poured in to mark his alghtisth birthdey. Virtuelly avaryone in Germany ramembers Sepp Harberger es the cosch who gulded his squad to World Cup honours at Barne, Switzertand, in 1954, as a socoar ganius, en unswerving mestermind end friend and a past master at simple but effective

Sepp Herberger's grestest day was un-doubtedly 4 Juty 1954, when the national team he had coached for so many years beat Hungary against sli the odds to win soccer's World Cup In Beme, Switzerland.

Thereafter he enjoyed the confidence of the general public even when luck seemed to be against both him and his squad. Bad luck was not long in putting In an sppearance either. Herberger the master tactlelan who always spoke his mind and usually got his own way retained the upper hand and continued to do so until he decided for himself when he proposed to retire.

When he did so, on 7 June 1964, he had been Reich and Federat chief coach for 28 years. He had been awarded every distinction association football has lo offer, not to mention the Grand Cross of the Federal Order of Ment.

His teams had come first; fourth and fifth respectively in the World Cup louniaments in Switzerland in 1954, Sweden in 1958 and Chile in 1962.

When success or failure were at slake the Boss as he was known, was not a man to compromise, still less to succomb to sentiment. In Chile he replaced goalie Hans Tilkowski by his understudy Volfgang Fahrian in mld-tournament ithout so much as a by-your-leave.

Eight years previously, in Switzerland, Berni Klodt likewise learnt to his cost that Herberger was no respecter of persons where the team was concerned.

After two great games against Turkey, won 4-1 and 7-2 respectively, Ktodt, who played outside-right for Schalke, had to step down for Helmut Rahn. Rahn, Herberger was convinced, would prova even more devastating.

In the event he was proved right. Rahn scored the crucial goals. Once

Sopp Harberger, probably this country's again Sepp Herberger was reckoned to most popular sporting figure, turned have a psychological knack. His aquad slighty on 28 March. Herberger captained significant to the was significant to the signifi sdmltted without hesitation that he was sn unparalleled leader of men, as he so often proved in man-to-man pep talks.

Players capped during Herberger's tanura unquastioningly accepted every word he said, no matter how trivial seemed. And Scpp's basic tenets sounded simple enough: "The ball is round," "each game lasts ninety minutes," "the next opponent is always the toughest" and "after the gaine means before the

Simple and atraightforward was the way Herberger liked to appear, and only Eva, the woman who has been his wife for the past 55 years, felt able to amile now and again, but onty from the distsnce, as it were, because she never sitended a single international game.

"A bank director docsn's take his wife to work with him either," Sepp cxplained. So home life seemed to be run along traditionst, patriarchal lines too. In sport Herberger was certainly always a stickler for discipline.

He came top of his degree ctass in 1930 at Berlin Academy of Physicsl Education and Invariably expected both players and the many cosches he trained to be orderly and disciplined.

He always demanded the utmost both from himself and from others, but he also always seemed to have a sixth sense for what was feasible.



Sepp Herberger

(Photo: Wilfried Witters)

But in the 1938 World Cup tournsment in France he was overruled. Herberger wanted to enter virtually the complete Breslau eleven - the first leam with which he made his name.

The Reichssportführer had other ideas, however. He wanted to see a Greater German tesm selected, so Herberger was obliged to combine the German and Austrian teams. The result was elimination in the first round of the

When the war was over Sepp Herberger was appointed Federal chief coach with full powers. He was back in office as sn sbsolute monarch.

Yet matters were somehow different aftar the World Cup win In Bemc. Coach Scpp Herberger, captain Fritz Wslier and the tesm were bowled over by a wave of sympathy.

After nine bitler post-war years the 3-2 defeat of Hungary in Berne was more than s mere victory on the field of play. Any number of people expressed their gratitude for what was hailed as the Spirit of Spiez, where the squad had held a pre-tournament training camp. Team spirit and comradeship counted for something, an entire country seemed to conclude.

This is perhaps why World Cup victory in 1954 counted for so much more than the Munich win twenty years lster. "The first World Cup was a sensation, especially as we had been banned from international soccer for eight long years," Sepp Herberger recalls. "The second win," he adds, "was nearly according to schedule."

As a first-rate midfied player with Wsldhof, Mannheim and Tennis Bonissia Berlin Herberger himself was capped three times, against Finland, Italy and Holland He once elasticd with the expenses code and was banned temporarily, but is neither money-mad nor resent ful of others' comings.

In 1954 playars were pald a 300 deutschmark allowanca; in 1974 thay received a 70,000-deutschmarks bonus. Times change, he says with a slinig, but will not accept this as an excuse for just any behaviour.

"Under my acgis there would have been no pre-tournament bargaining for higher bonuses!" Herberger declares. Horst Eckel, one of the Beme team, is convinced that "Sepp Herberger would be a great trainer even in this day and

Who can tett? Conjecture is mere theory, and Sepp Herberger is a man with a practical bent. He certainly does not need to argue the toss. He could hardly be more popular than he is alrea-

(Münchner Merkur, 26 March 1977)

Grand Prix drivers ban Nürburgring circuit

This yeer's Formule One Federal Republic Grand Prix will be hald not at Nürburgring, but et Hockenhaim, batwaan Mannhelm and Haldelberg. Formar world champion racing driver Niki Leude of Austria, who was marked for tife et lest year's Grand Prix, inspected the 22.835-kilometre Nürburgring track in conjunction with fellow-driver John Watson and concluded that the eighteenpoint safety requirements leid down by the Grend Prix Drivers Association had only been met in three instances. On bahalf of his fatlow-drivers he announced that the Nürburgring circuit was out of the running as fer as they were concerned.

Tountains will literally need moving IVA if the Nitrburgring Grand Prix circuit is to survive after the verdict given by ex-world champion Niki Landa of Austria on behalf of his fellow Grand Prix drivers.

The fifty-year-old Nürburgring course, hibbed the most beautiful in the world. badly needs a thoroughgoing road safety facelift that with cost roughly forty milion deutschmarks

"Unless politicians in Bonn and Mainz take swift action, the Nürburgring circuit will from part and parcel of meing history in a very few years' time," a spokesman for Automobilelub von Deulschland commented in Frankfurt.

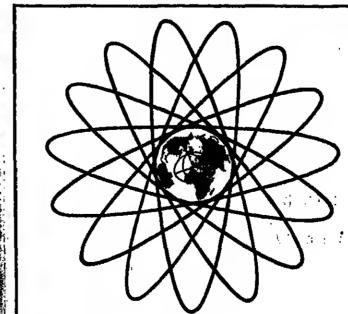
"Before long the Nürburgring witt only be suitable for minor national events or eyele races."

achiation by politicians is seen as the main reason why this state of affairs has come about in the first place. "Blame must be laid in equal measure at the doors of the Rhineland-Palatinate state government in Mainz and of the Federal government in Bonn, which has yet to say a good word about motor racing even though this country is the foremost car-owning nation in Europe."

Should politicians decide against improvements to the Nurburgring, this country with be left with only one Grand Prix circuit, Hockenhelm, whereas neighbouring France still boasts eight.

Even Hockenheim has its shortcomings. It was only given a provisional goahead as a Formula One venue this season because crash barriers still need

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 25 March 1977)



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